

October 6, 2019

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
P.O. Box 683
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803
www.olneychurchofchrist.org

Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Elders: Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

Deacons: John Frost, Dave Goff,
Roger Sholders

Visitors are welcome

We offer Bible classes for all ages

We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

“I Know Whom I Have Believed”

By Michael Hickox

2 Timothy 1:12: *For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.*

Paul’s response to trials is remarkable. In **2 Timothy 1:8-11**, he pointed out that serving God led him to be persecuted. Despite these hardships, Paul expressed joy, peace, hope, zeal, and endurance through his sufferings. In **2 Timothy 1:12**, he expressed his *faith*.

Paul faced frequent rejection, yet remained steadfast. His choice to follow Christ caused Paul to suffer hardships many cannot fathom (**2 Cor. 11:24-27**). Through it all, Paul showed no signs of backing down in his efforts to serve God.

What makes a person stand so steadfast? Paul gives a key part of the answer in **2 Timothy 1:12**. He was persuaded that God is to be trusted. Paul’s faith produced a confidence that made the things he suffered seem *light* (**2 Cor. 4:17**).

By focusing on “***the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen***” (**Heb. 11:1**), we can, like Paul, endure hardships with peace and steadfastness. We can genuinely proclaim “***I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.***”

A Search for Meaning

By Michael Hickox

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14: *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.*

King Solomon spent much of his life searching for meaning and fulfillment of purpose. He sought (and acquired) nearly everything the world deems to be life's aim. He gained wealth, possessions, pleasure, popularity, prestige, education, and accomplishments, yet concluded "**vanity of vanities; all is vanity**" (Eccl. 1:2).

After explaining several things that did not bring fulfillment, Solomon, by inspiration, ended Ecclesiastes by stating what *does*. "**Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter**," he said.

Life is not about gaining earthly wealth, fame, or prestige, although such may not be wrong. Life's meaning goes deeper than being a good spouse, parent, or neighbor, although these things *result* from fulfilling one's purpose in life.

At its core, life is about glorifying and pleasing God. There is a "hole" inside of us that only God can fill. There is a longing for fulfillment that is satisfied by serving Him.

May we heed the wisdom offered us by the Holy Spirit and "**Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.**"

"By Way of Remembrance"

By Michael Hickox

God promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that all nations of the earth would be blessed through their seed (**Gen. 12:3; 26:4; 28:14**). God foretold of a time their descendants would be in captivity, but He assured that they would "**come out with great substance**" (**Gen. 15:13-14**).

In **Exodus 2**, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob's descendants were in Egyptian bondage, and "**God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them**" (verses 24-25). Upon remembering, God led the Israelites out of bondage. God exhorted the Israelites to remember Him, as He remembered them. He instituted the Passover to remind them of what He had done for them (**Exod. 12**).

While the Israelites were to observe the Passover to remember God, Christians observe the Lord's Supper to remember Christ (**1 Cor. 11:24-25**).

More generally, Christians should remember God's will throughout our lives.

As Peter wrote to Christians, he wrote to "**stir up [their] pure minds by way of remembrance**" (**2 Pet. 3:1**).

The Israelites who left Egypt forgot God (**Exod. 16:3; 17:3; Numb. 14:2**). May we never lose sight of who our Creator, Master, and Savior is, but constantly pray, study, and think on God's Word, remembering Christ and His will for us.

Area Gospel Meetings

Benton Church of Christ:

Oct. 6 – 11 (with Ken Chapman)
Sun: 9:30; 10:30; 6:00; M-F: 7:00 PM

Mattoon South Side Church of Christ:

Oct. 14 – 20 (with L.A. Stauffer)
M-Sat: 7:00 PM; Sun: 9:30; 10:30; 6:00

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God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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Words to Consider

“He who is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a quick temper displays folly...a gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

– Proverbs 14:29; 15:1

Prayer List

Holly G
Sandy S
Betty P
Mabel H
Cheryl S
Norma C
Dody G
Joe B
Allen S (Cancer)
Raymond & Maxine
Randy & Kim S
Mike & Family
Ken & Chris F
Brandon O's Grandmother (Lung Cancer)

Daily Bible Reading

October 6 – Isaiah 11-13; Ephesians 4
October 7 – Isaiah 14-16; Ephesians 5:1-16
October 8 – Isaiah 17-19; Ephesians 5:17-33
October 9 – Isaiah 20-22; Ephesians 6
October 10 – Isaiah 23-25; Philippians 1
October 11 – Isaiah 26-27; Philippians 2
October 12 – Isaiah 28-29; Philippians 3

“Blessed are those who keep His statutes, who seek Him with their whole heart.”– Psalm 119:2

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, October 6, 2019

Bible Study: John

Worship: Harold

Evening: Michael

Wednesday, October 9, 2019

Dan H

Cleaning Building

Cynde

Prepare Communion

Donna

Upcoming Reminders

Oct. 26: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.

Study: A Virtuous Woman (Ruth 3:8-18)

Assignments

Sunday, October 13, 2019

Reading: Jim

Announcements: Darrell

Table: Steve

Serve: Mike

Dave

Dan H

Darrell

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Invitation: Larry

Anniversaries

October 6 – Travis & Jessica

October 11 – Mike & Paula

October 27 – Carlyle & Donna

Birthdays

October 20 – Alita

October 21 – Dave

October 22 – Janice

October 23 – Craig

October 29 – Morgan